Pol 14 VIET S

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

784

Saigon 4781 8-Q-67

CONFIDENTIAL

R

PAGE 01 SAIGON 04781 021239Z

50
ACTION SS 7

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,/070 W

O R 021135Z AUG 67 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6074
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 4061
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE 2372
AMCONSUL DANANG 863

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Doris Isenberg DATE 10/5/81
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (3)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☑ RELEASABLE ☑
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4781
LIMDIS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SEPT 1, HA THUC KY REITERATED CONVICTION HE WOULD WIN ELECTION IF IT IS HONEST. KY CLAIMED THAT MOST RECENT "PUBLIC OPINION POLL" CONDUCTED BY NATIONAL POLICE SHOWED HIM TO BE FRONT RUNNER WITH SUU, THIEU AND HUONG BEHIND HIM IN THAT ORDER. THERE WILL, HOWEVER, BE FRAUD, KY CONTINUED, AND ELECTION RESULTS NOT LIKELY TO REFLECT TRUE POPULAR SENTIMENTS. KY ALLEGED THAT GVN WITHHOLDING MANY VOTING CARDS FROM REGISTERED VOTERS. THESE CARDS WILL BE USED TO TAMPER WITH ELECTION RESULTS.

(1)

PAGE TWO RUMJIR 4781 C O N F I D E N T I A L
"EVEN MAI THO TRUYEN CAN'T GET HIS VOTING CARD", KY ADDED.

2. HA THUC KY DID NOT APPEAR PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN LOOKING BEYOND ELECTION DAY. HOWEVER, IN RESPONSE TO COMMENT BY EMBOFF ON NEED FOR POST ELECTION COOPERATION BETWEEN WINNING AND LOSING CANDIDATES, KY AGREED AND SAID HE HAD EMPHASIZED THIS POINT HIMSELF MANY TIMES DURING CAMPAIGN; BUT, HE WENT ON, SUCH COOPERATION

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 04781 021239Z

WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF ELECTION NOT HONEST.

3. KY APPEARED QUITE EXHAUSTED FROM HISCAMPAIGN. HE COMPLAINED OF DIZZY SPELLS AND REMARKED THAT SEVERAL TIMES DURING PAST FEW DAYS HE HAD WONDERED IF HE HAD SUFFICIENT STAMINA TO MEET ALL HIS CAMPAIGN ENGAGEMENTS.

4. COMMENT: (A) HA THUC KY CONTINUES TO GROSSLY OVERESTIMATE HIS CHANCES. IN OUR JUDGMENT HE WILL MAKE RESPECTABLE SHOWING BUT IS NOT LIKELY TO FINISH BETTER THAN FOURTH IN PRESIDENTIAL RACE. (B) IN POST ELECTION PERIOD KY'S ORGANIZATION CAN BE EXPECTED TO SUBMIT SOME COMPLAINTS WITH RESPECT TO CONDUCT OF ELECTION TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES, KY FOLLOWERS IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PARTICULARLY NGUYEN VAN NGAI, MIGHT BE VERY LOUD IN THEIR EFFORTS TO DISCREDIT ELECTION. WHAT MAY RESTRAIN THEM FROM PUSHING COMPLAINTS TOO FAR IS DESIRE TO PRESERVE EXISTING

PAGE THREE RUMJIR 4781 C O N F I D E N T I A L
REVOLUTIONARY DAI VIET PARTY ASSETS INCLUDING GVN PATRONAGE IN CENTRAL VIETNAM AND JUDICIOUS HANDLING BY NEWLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT.

(C) KY'S CHARGE THAT VOTING CARDS BEING WITHHELD IS ALLEGATION WHICH HAS BEEN HEARD FREQUENTLY DURING PAST FEW DAYS, AND COULD BE PRESSURE TACTIC DESIGNED TO INSURE THAT CARDS ARE IN FACT BEING DISTRIBUTED. THERE MAY ALSO BE SUBSTANCE TO THE CHARGE, AND WE ARE CHECKING IT OUT.

GP-3 BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL